



Prospectus of Proposed Project Opportunity

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Opportunity Title

McCoy Creek Restoration Project

Opportunity Lead

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Technical Contact

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Landowners

Contacted: Yes

Supportive: USFS is the only land owner and is supportive.

Contribution: Providing trees, cuttings and some labor - \$175,000.

River

Name: McCoy Creek

Mile: 9.0 - 11.0

Tributary: Meadow Creek

Restoration Atlas

BSR: UGR13

Tier: Tier 2

Initial Score: 76
Proposed Score: 25

Restoration Activities

- 3. Pool Development
- 9. Restoration of Floodplain Topography and Vegetation
- 12. Secondary (non-perennial) Channel
- 15. Hyporheic Off-Channel Habitat (Groundwater)
- 17. Riparian Fencing
- 18. Riparian Buffer Strip, Planting
- 27. LWD Placement

Species Affected

Focal: Snake River Summer Steelhead.
Other: Redband trout.

Description

McCoy Creek within the project area, has three large ungulate exclosures that have been in place for approximately 25 years. The exclosures are in need of reconstruction and breeching has occurred by livestock and wildlife. The stream channel is intermittent, except for approximately .2 mile of the project area. The channel has a high width to depth ratio, little riparian vegetation, and erosion of streambanks at meander bends. Tree and shrub species include lodgepole pine, Douglas-fir, western larch, ponderosa pine, cottonwood, two species of willow, alder, hawthorne and serviceberry.

The McCoy Creek Restoration Project would place wood within 2 miles of McCoy Creek for a total of 83 sites. Approximately, 5,000 deciduous seedlings, 10,000 deciduous cuttings will be planted within the project area. The large ungulate exclosures will need to be reconstructed. All disturbed areas will be seeded after project completion.

Structure Construction

A total of 83 sites will have wood input. Approximately of 913 pieces of large woody debris with racking material will be needed for structure construction. In addition, 287 large wood pieces will be placed on the floodplain (Total of 1200 wood pieces). Most of the structures are a combination of cut logs, root wads, and limbs and will be constructed as a channel spanning log jam. Each structure site will average 11 pieces of large woody debris and 4: ten yard loads of racking material. Large wood will be 10" - 20" dbh and 30' long. All of the wood will be obtained in close vicinity to the project area. The woody material will be pushed over by excavator or felled with a chainsaw. All of the wood will be imported into the creek with the use of an excavator and chokers, where needed. No soil excavation of wood into streambanks or pinning of logs will occur. There will be substrate

dug from the stream and placed into the spanning log structures.

Fencing

The large ungulate exclosures will be reconstructed on McCoy Creek. This will involve replacing rotten posts, reconstructing water gaps, rerouting the fence around stream washout areas and replacing damaged fence hardware.

Planting

A total of 5,000 deciduous seedlings and 10,000 deciduous cuttings will be planted in the project area. Native species will be used. All of the seedling planting will be completed by hand at disturbed areas. The cuttings will be planted with excavators within the floodprone areas and streambanks adjacent to McCoy Creek.

Seeding

All areas disturbed by equipment will be seeded with a native grass/forb seed mix after project completion.

Objectives

The objective is to improve summer steelhead habitat, specifically through improving or increasing the following habitat elements.

- * Increase the duration of perennial flow, within the stream reach
- Improve riparian & wetland diversity, vigor and function
- Improve floodplain function
- Increase fish cover
- Increase habitat complexity
- Increase number of large and medium pieces of large woody debris in the stream
- Increase spawning gravel recruitment

Major Risks

None.

Permits and Consultation

ESA Section 7 USFWS: Applicable
ESA Section 7 NMFS: Applicable
COE or DSL Permit: Applicable
Cultural Resources Section 106: Applicable
DEQ 401 Water Quality Permit:

Project Schedule

Year: 2021

Monitoring: Effectiveness Monitoring - Were the desired results achieved?

o Structure construction: Monitoring of structures would involve photo points of before and after operations occur. Follow up photo points would occur at year 1, 2 and 3 after project completion. This monitoring will be completed by the USFS

o Plant/seed survival: Native plantings and seeded areas would be evaluated for survival on a yearly basis for three years after project completion through photo points and determining plant survival. If plant/seed survival is poor, then subsequent planting and/or seeding would occur. This monitoring will be completed by the USFS.

o Noxious weeds: Noxious weeds would be monitored, yearly, for three years after project operations. This monitoring will be completed by the USFS.

Project Relations

Multi-phase Effort: No

Preliminary Cost Estimate

Total: \$416,000

BPA Funding:

OWEB Funding: 241,000

Design Funding

Design Funds Requested: No